

1	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
	FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI
2	JACKSON DIVISION
3	
4	M.B., A MINOR BY AND
4	THROUGH HER NEXT FRIEND, KANWAR SINGH BEDI
5	PLAINTIFF
6	
	V. CIVIL ACTION NO. 3:13-CV-00241-CWR-FKB
7	
8	RANKIN COUNTY SCHOOL
	DISTRICT AND CHARLES
9	FRAZIER INDIVIDUALLY AND
10	IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS PRINCIPAL OF NORTHWEST
1 10	RANKIN HIGH SCHOOL
11	DEFENDANTS
12	
13	DEPOSITION OF M.B., A MINOR
14	BELOSTION OF H.B., IT HENOR
15	Taken at the instance of the Defendants at Corlew, Munford & Smith, PLLC, 4450 Old Canton Road, Suite
16	111, Jackson, Mississippi, on Tuesday, December 16,
	2014, beginning at 11:16 a.m.
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18	
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1 M.B., A MINOR, 2 having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows: 3 4 EXAMINATION BY MS. WALL: 5 Q. Can you state your name for the record? 6 Α. Gracie Bedi. 7 And your address? Q. Four Glensview Court, Brandon, Mississippi 8 Α. 9 39047. 10 Q. Okay. And you've given a deposition 11 before, right, Gracie? 12 Α. Yes, ma'am. 13 And you understand I'm going to be asking 14 you some questions. Freddie Harrell may be asking 15 you some questions. Your attorneys may be asking 16 you some questions. And if you don't understand the 17 question, just tell me, and I'll try to rephrase it. 18 Also, if you remember, she's trying to 19 take down every single thing you're saying, so if 20 you'll answer "yes" or "no." 21 Α. Right. 22 0. You've got that? 23 Yes, ma'am. Α. 24 And it's your deposition. If you need a Q. 25 break, tell us --

- 1 A. Uh-huh.
- 2 Q. -- and we'll take a break.
- 3 A. All right.
- Q. We're here today about the ACT ceremony
- 5 when you were a senior in high school.
- A. Yes.
- 7 Q. It's a little bit -- you are no longer at
- 8 Northwest Rankin; is that right?
- 9 A. No, ma'am.
- 10 Q. Okay. Where do you go to school now?
- 11 A. American University in Washington, D.C.
- 12 Q. Okay. And you graduated?
- 13 A. May 2014, May 17th.
- 14 Q. Okay. And this ACT program took place
- 15 when?
- 16 A. April 17th, was it? April 17th, I think.
- 17 Q. Of 2014?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Okay. And was this a program that was
- 20 just for seniors?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. So -- but they do it every year?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. How did you find out about this
- 25 program?

1	A. It's advertised very heavily within the
2	school. There are brochures, and teachers announce
3	it.
4	Q. Okay. Do you get a formal invitation?
5	A. No.
6	Q. Okay.
7	A. You're on a list, and that's how they know
8	that you can go.
9	Q. Okay. And it was based on your ACT score,
10	correct?
11	A. Yes.
12	Q. And you had real, real high ACTs, correct?
13	A. Yes, ma'am.
14	Q. And what was that?
15	A. 28 29 was the latter one.
16	Q. Do you remember what the brochures or
17	anything in anything specific about how the
18	invitations or the how you found out that
19	A. They simply stated the dates and the
20	reason, who was presenting it, which is the RCSD
21	school district, and attire, which is to be either
22	business or Easter Sunday.
23	Q. Okay. Now, when you said "they," who did
24	you specifically hear it from?
25	A. My senior project teacher, Amelia

- 1 Perryman.
- Q. Okay. What is a senior project teacher?
- 3 A. All seniors are required to do a senior
- 4 project. It's a year-long project, and the topic
- 5 changes year by year. This year was our -- based on
- 6 our careers, our future careers.
- 7 Q. Okay. Does each student have a different
- 8 senior topic?
- 9 A. There are about three to four main senior
- 10 project teachers --
- 11 Q. Okay.
- 12 A. -- that we're distributed amongst.
- Q. So do you know -- what did she tell you to
- 14 wear?
- 15 A. We were told to wear business.
- 16 Q. Okay.
- 17 A. Other teachers, to my knowledge, were told
- 18 to wear Easter Sunday.
- 19 Q. So would it be -- when we're talking about
- 20 "other teachers," it would be -- would that
- 21 information have come from the senior project
- 22 teachers, or do you know?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. So anybody that was invited --
- 25 correct me if I'm wrong -- anybody that was invited

- 1 to the awards program would have been instructed
- 2 through their senior teacher?
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And do you know how Amelia would
- 5 have found out about the ACT or what to tell you
- 6 or --
- 7 A. I can only assume she received an e-mail
- 8 from the principal or the district.
- 9 Q. Okay.
- 10 A. I don't know for sure, though.
- 11 Q. Okay. And about when in the year did you
- 12 find out that you would be invited?
- 13 A. I believe it was early spring, the spring
- 14 semester, but it's something that's been done for
- 15 years, and I already knew the standard because my
- 16 brother went through the same thing. And so I knew
- 17 I'd be invited from the beginning.
- 18 Q. Okay. And just for seniors?
- 19 A. Just for seniors.
- Q. Was it compulsory?
- 21 A. It was not compulsory.
- Q. Okay. But somewhere I read that you said
- 23 you got excused from class?
- A. Yes, we got excused from class. It was
- 25 highly expected of you to attend.

- Q. Okay.
- 2 A. You could not show up to school and then
- 3 not attend, but if you showed up for school, you
- 4 were expected to go.
- 5 Q. Got you. Now, you got an excuse from your
- 6 class?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Was it this -- back to Ms. Perryman, did
- 9 she have a specific class she went to --
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. -- or she was your adviser?
- 12 A. A specific class.
- 13 Q. Was it during that time period?
- 14 A. It was during that class as well as
- 15 another class, which is physics.
- 16 Q. Oh, wow. Now, how did you get -- it
- 17 wasn't at Northwest Rankin, correct?
- A. No, ma'am.
- 19 Q. Do you know why they would have it at
- 20 Brandon?
- 21 A. I'm assuming the larger facilities.
- 22 Q. Okay. Even though Northwest Rankin has a
- 23 big --
- A. We're not that quite big. It's big, but
- 25 not in comparison.

1	Q. Okay. I've never been to Brandon.
2	A. We're all very jealous of Brandon High
3	School.
4	Q. So how did you did they transport
5	everybody that's going? Did you take your own car?
6	A. Yes. We took a school bus
7	Q. Okay.
8	A multiple school buses.
9	Q. Okay. Did you outside guests, were
10	there other people?
11	A. No, parents specifically were not invited.
12	Q. Okay. What about teachers from Northwest
13	Rankin or teachers from the school district or
14	school district employees, who besides the students
15	were there?
16	A. Besides the students?
17	Q. Uh-huh.
18	A. I know Amelia Perryman was there. I'm
19	assuming the other senior project teachers were
20	probably there as well. Probably chaperones as well
21	as just to observe. There were members of the
22	district board who presented themselves, Lynn
23	Weathersby was there. All the principals from the
24	high schools and district were there, including
25	Charles Frazier.

- I think at one point, Josh Harkins was
- 2 there. He left early. I can't recall quite when.
- 3 And then I'm sure there may have been other
- 4 administrators just watching and helping orchestrate
- 5 the event, but I couldn't tell you for sure.
- 6 Q. Okay. So you said there was the teachers,
- 7 the four teachers. Do you happen to know who the
- 8 other teachers were besides Perryman?
- 9 A. I remember there was a Ms. Banks and a
- 10 Ms. Conner, but those are the three I remember.
- 11 Q. Got you. And you said some chaperones.
- 12 Would those be other teachers or --
- 13 A. Other teachers probably. Again, I can't
- 14 recall quite faces and names, but other teachers
- were probably there.
- 16 Q. But there were other teachers from
- 17 Northwest Rankin besides just these four teachers?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Okay. I got you. And you said that
- 20 Ms. Perryman is the one that told you what to wear?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you have any idea who told people to
- 23 wear, you say, Easter or Sunday School attire?
- 24 A. Yes. It was actually kind of a thing of
- 25 contention. There was a lot of discussion about

- 1 which one to wear, because business, as you know, is
- 2 different than Easter Sunday. And from what I can
- 3 tell, the other senior project teachers told the
- 4 other students because we were kind of discussing
- 5 what we should wear in comparison to each other.
- 6 And so some teachers told Easter Sunday,
- 7 some were told business. I think Amelia is the one
- 8 -- or Ms. Perryman, rather, is the one -- the only
- 9 one who did business, as far as I know. And I think
- 10 the overall consensus was Easter Sunday, because
- 11 most everyone showed up in Easter Sunday after a
- 12 discussion.
- Q. Okay. Who did you have these
- 14 conversations with about the attire, anybody in
- 15 particular?
- 16 A. Fellow classmates. I remember I had a
- 17 conversation with Faith Ambrose. I believe I
- 18 mentioned her before. Aside from that, people, you
- 19 know, gather in clumps in the cafeteria and just
- 20 discuss. I couldn't tell you any particular names.
- Q. Okay. It was just kind of a thread that
- 22 was running through the week?
- 23 A. Exactly, the grapevine, you know.
- Q. Right. Now, as to the program, do you
- 25 have any idea who was in charge of selecting the

1	speakers?
2	A. I do not.
3	Q. And you said Josh Harkins was a speaker?
4	A. Yes.
5	Q. And then there's this the the pastor
6	that spoke?
7	A. Yes, Reverend Rob Gill.
8	Q. Tell me a little bit about how the program
9	started. Y'all all came in and sat down, and then
10	what in your words, what happened?
11	A. Well, we filed in, and we sat down
12	according to they were separating those with
13	honors and those with high honors, based on your ACT
14	score. And once you separated through those groups,
15	you sat down alphabetically.
16	We were seated; we were introduced. I
17	think Lynn Weathersby said a few words, and then he
18	introduced the pastor who then stood up and had a
19	prayer to open up the ceremony. We were asked to
20	stand for the prayer and bow our heads. I did not.
21	After the prayer concluded, they introduced the next
22	speaker.
23	Q. Okay. And how did you feel during the
24	prayer?
25	A. Shocked, mildly humiliated. A lot of my

- 1 peers from Northwestern specifically knew of the
- 2 lawsuit, and they, themselves, were looking back as
- 3 if asking for clarification. Of course, we couldn't
- 4 speak. Incredibly startled.
- I almost took out my phone to videotape
- 6 it. But there had been a videographer that was
- 7 introduced at the beginning to videotape it. They
- 8 said since the parents can't come, they would show
- 9 them that. And so I relied on the videographer's
- 10 footage instead. But I was humiliated and shocked.
- 11 Q. Now, you said -- did you stand or not
- 12 stand?
- 13 A. I stood. I did not bow my head.
- 14 Q. Okay. Did you -- what was going on in the
- 15 room? Could you tell with the other people, like
- 16 your peer students and the people on the podium or
- 17 the stage or --
- 18 A. Most everyone stood and bowed their heads.
- 19 As I mentioned before, a few of my peers looked back
- 20 at me, like, questioningly. Aside from that,
- 21 though, everything went as they ordered.
- Q. Okay. Do you remember who was sitting
- 23 around you? Were you sitting with Faith, or were
- 24 you said it was alphabetical?
- 25 A. It was alphabetical. Faith was in the

- 1 other group of honorees. I don't know exactly who
- 2 was sitting around me. The program -- I know
- 3 there's photocopies of it somewhere that have the
- 4 order in which we were sitting, I believe.
- 5 Q. So you were sitting -- Northwest Rankin
- 6 sat together?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And there was the high honors?
- 9 A. And the honors.
- 10 Q. And the honors?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. By school?
- A. By school, yes, ma'am.
- 14 Q. Okay. Okay. You said they announced that
- 15 there was a videographer?
- A. Yes, ma'am.
- 17 Q. Did you know beforehand -- had you seen
- 18 the program? Did you know anything about --
- 19 A. I had no idea.
- 20 Q. Okay.
- 21 A. No one had ever mentioned a prayer before
- 22 to me. I have friends and my brother who went
- 23 through it before. They never mentioned it. I had
- 24 no idea there would be a prayer.
- Q. When was your brother --

1 Α. My brother graduated May 2012, and his was 2 in April 2012. 3 Q. Got you. Is that your only brother? I have two older brothers. Α. 5 That's what I thought, and you have Q. Okay. 6 a younger --7 Α. Sister, yes. 8 Q. Okay. Now, do you know who was in charge 9 of the program? 10 Α. I do not. 11 Ο. Okay. There was no person that was 12 leading the group that you know of? 13 Α. Not that I can recall. 14 0. Okay. And you mentioned that at the time 15 of the thing, your principal was Charles Frazier? 16 Α. Yes. 17 Now, what role did he play in the 0. 18 presentation or the --19 The principal sat on stage at 20 each school's roll call for them to, you know, call 21 the students up for their awards. He called 22 Northwest Rankin's. 23 So he called the names out?

24

25

0.

Α.

Q.

Yes.

Okay. Did you walk across the stage?

- 1 an award, what --
- A. Uh-huh.
- 3 Q. What did you get?
- A. I walked across the stage. For honors,
- 5 you got a little medallion with a red ribbon. For
- 6 high honors, you got a blue ribbon with a medallion
- 7 on it. And you would walk across the stage, shake
- 8 the hands of your principal and Lynn Weathersby, and
- 9 they would give you medallion, and you would go back
- 10 and sit down.
- 11 Q. Okay. So each individual principal for
- 12 the schools was responsible for their own people?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know -- do you have any knowledge
- of what information about the program came to you
- 16 from Charles Frazier?
- 17 A. I do not. I have no idea if there was an
- 18 e-mail sent or if there was any -- or any
- 19 announcements. I don't know.
- Q. Uh-huh. Did Charles Frazier participate
- 21 in the prayer?
- 22 A. He stood and bowed his head, yes.
- Q. Do you know if he had any connection with
- 24 Rob Gill?
- 25 A. I do not.

- 1 Q. Do you know if he had anything to do with 2 Rob Gill delivering a prayer? 3 I do not. Α. Specifically, as to Charles Frazier's 4 Q. 5 actions, how do you feel like he violated your 6 rights during that ceremony? 7 He allowed it to happen without saying anything. He did not do anything to stop or 8 9 acknowledge the transgression, and he participated 10 by standing with the others. 11 Ο. Do you know -- do you have any knowledge 12 if he knew what the program was going to be? 13 I don't know. Α. 14 0. And y'all were told there was a cameraman 15 there --
- 16 Α. Yes.
- 17 -- at the beginning? 0.
- 18 A. At the very beginning.
- 19 Just because your parents weren't 0. Okay.
- 20 going to be there?
- 21 Α. That was what they said. Lynn Weathersby
- 22 specifically, it's what he said.
- 23 Now, you had said you had -- I'm Ο. Okay.
- going to show you this. You had said that -- in 24
- your affidavit, you had said that the school 25

- 1 officials issued a memo to students at Brandon High
- 2 School regarding the important events, and this was
- 3 one of them. And then it said -- right here, it
- 4 says, "On April" -- here it is. This was attached
- 5 to your thing. "On April 17th," it said that it --
- 6 they say "church attire." Where do I see that?
- 7 Right here (indicating). That the ceremony and
- 8 the -- you're to dress in church attire.
- 9 Now, this -- you went to Northwest Rankin
- 10 High School?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Where did this come from?
- 13 A. This information is generally publicly
- 14 available on the different websites for the schools.
- 15 Q. Okay. So each individual school had
- 16 instructions --
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. -- as to how -- what to wear? Did anybody
- 19 else say anything about church attire on their
- 20 website? Did you go look?
- 21 A. No, not that I know of. Easter -- I
- 22 looked at Northwest Rankin's. Easter Sunday,
- 23 however, does imply church attire, but I do not
- 24 recall it being on the website specifically.
- 25 Q. Okay.

- 1 A. Most of our information was given out via
- 2 the brochure that we have the printout or the
- 3 photocopy of and announcements and word of mouth.
- Q. Got you. But what made you go look at one
- 5 on Brandon? I'm just curious.
- 6 A. That was the host school, and Brandon and
- 7 Northwest are both very, I guess, close together,
- 8 and I heard that they --
- 9 Q. Competitors?
- 10 A. Yeah. We are competitors, yes, in both
- 11 funds and sports. But -- and so I looked because I
- 12 thought if one was likely to kind of mimic
- 13 Northwest's actions, it would be Brandon.
- Q. Okay. But you didn't look at any of the
- 15 other schools to see what they had said?
- 16 A. I did not.
- 17 Q. And do you have any other friends in any
- 18 of the other schools that --
- 19 A. I do not.
- 20 Q. -- said how they were told to dress?
- 21 A. No.
- Q. Now, as far as anything on any website
- 23 about a prayer at the --
- A. Uh-huh.
- 25 Q. -- did you find -- was there anything on a

- 1 website about prayer at this?
- A. No, ma'am, not that I recall.
- 3 Q. And you had said there were some
- 4 pictures --
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. -- taken after the fact?
- 7 A. Yes, ma'am.
- 8 Q. Do you know who took those pictures?
- 9 A. It was one of our administrators because
- 10 it was within our high school gym. I should know.
- 11 I cannot recall.
- 12 Q. Those weren't taken at Brandon?
- 13 A. No, no. That was at our gym. We went
- 14 home via the school buses, and they had us line up
- 15 in the gym, and they took our pictures for the
- 16 website.
- Q. And you said something on Twitter, also?
- 18 Did they put it on Twitter? Did y'all have a
- 19 Twitter account or was there one?
- 20 A. There is a Twitter account. I do not
- 21 recall if it was on Twitter. There are several
- 22 Twitter accounts for the different, you know,
- 23 functions of the school, like, Northwest Rankin
- 24 sports, Northwest Rankin --
- Q. I just thought I had read something about

- 1 the Twitter account.
- 2 So were there pictures taken -- aside from
- 3 the camera guy, were there pictures taken at
- 4 Brandon?
- 5 A. Not that I know of. We weren't lined up
- 6 or anything at Brandon.
- 7 Q. Okay. And the significance of the -- you
- 8 had mentioned that in your Complaint, the
- 9 significance of the photos taken after the fact?
- 10 A. Uh-huh. It just -- it shows who was there
- 11 and who was present. Specifically, that I was
- 12 present at the awards ceremony. My name was
- 13 mentioned both on the brochure as well as you could
- 14 see in the pictures, which they knew I would be
- 15 there.
- 16 Q. About how many kids from Northwest Rankin
- 17 went?
- 18 A. Quite a lot, actually. I'm very proud of
- 19 that. Overall, I think there were about 300
- 20 students in attendance, and we had the most students
- 21 in attendance. I'm not quite sure how many there
- 22 were. I counted at one point for my own, like,
- 23 bragging rights. I can't remember exactly. I'm
- 24 sure there was close to a hundred.
- Q. They weren't all in the picture, were

- 1 they, because I didn't think the picture had that
- 2 many -- were they all in one of these pictures?
- 3 A. Uh-huh, one of the two pictures.
- 4 Q. Okay. Okay.
- 5 A. Those present were in the -- some did
- 6 not -- some people did not show up.
- 7 Q. Okay. At all, the whole day?
- 8 A. I don't think they even went to school,
- 9 that was --
- 10 Q. Okay. And do you have any knowledge what
- 11 actual instructions came from actual school
- 12 district?
- 13 A. I do not know.
- Q. Do you know if the school district was
- 15 responsible for planning the whole program?
- 16 A. On the brochure or the pamphlet they gave
- 17 us, it did say "Presented by RCSD."
- 18 Q. So you don't know --
- 19 A. I don't know for sure about that
- 20 information.
- Q. Do you know from your brother's prior in
- 22 2012, was it a substantially similar program, or do
- 23 you know?
- A. Well, I reviewed the videos of both, and
- 25 it looked very similar, yes.

1 Q. What, if any, conversation did you have 2 with Charles Frazier before the program? 3 Α. None that I can recall. What about after the program? Q. 5 None that I can recall. Α. Q. Did you ever have any conversation with 7 anybody at the school district about the -- what transpired at the program? 8 9 Α. No. 10 And you didn't -- did you talk to any of Q. 11 your teachers about how you felt after the program? 12 Yes. After the program, we had one class 13 left in the day, and I did go to class. 14 French class. And I mentioned briefly about what 15 happened and how frustrating it was. The teacher 16 did not -- she works for the district and didn't 17 respond. 18 Q. Who was the teacher of the French class? 19 Α. Nancy Johnston. 20 Q. And nobody at -- nobody other than 21 Nancy Johnston at Northwest Rankin did you 22 express --23 No, however, my peers expressed their 24 concerns to me, and as far as I know, they expressed I'm not sure which 25 their concerns to our teachers.

- 1 ones, but I knew by the time we reached school most
- 2 teachers already knew about it.
- 3 O. Most of the --
- A. At least in the Vine Street Annex, most of
- 5 the senior teachers --
- 6 Q. Wait, wait. In the what?
- 7 A. The Vine Street Annex. That's where my
- 8 last class of the day was. And so I knew several
- 9 teachers down that hall already knew what had
- 10 happened by the time we got back to school. Phones
- 11 are really great.
- 12 Q. Yeah. It's called the Vine Street Annex?
- 13 A. Yes, Vine Street Annex.
- Q. And do you know if any teachers -- you
- 15 said Nancy Johnston didn't respond. Do you know if
- 16 anybody had any opinion --
- 17 A. I don't know.
- 18 Q. -- as to what happened?
- 19 A. I don't know.
- 20 Q. After the fact, you said -- I may have
- 21 asked you this, and I probably did. Did you ever
- 22 talk to Charles Frazier after the --
- 23 A. I did not.
- Q. Anybody in the office at Northwest Rankin?
- 25 A. I did not.

1	Q. And aside from Ambrose
2	A. I don't
3	Q you don't remember any
4	A. I mean, I spoke to many peers afterwards,
5	but before discussing the attire, all I remember is
6	Faith being in one of the groups.
7	Q. Okay. But afterwards, you felt like there
8	was a thread across the people that were there?
9	A. Yes, many approached me, actually, after
10	the ceremony. We had a period after the ceremony
11	where they gave us Chick-fil-A, which was great.
12	But we had a period afterwards, and many of my peers
13	actually approached me.
14	And we most of my peers for my AP
15	government class or who had gone through AP
16	government because they now knew, like, court cases
17	citing about prayers in schools, and so they asked
18	me what are those court cases and asked what we
19	could do, if we could do anything. And I told them
20	I had already e-mailed my lawyer.
21	Q. So you had actually e-mailed your lawyer
22	before you left the
23	A. I had e-mailed my lawyer as soon as we
24	stood up for the prayer. I had my phone out.
25	Q. Okay.
I	

1 MS. WALL: Freddie, do you have anything? 2 Just a couple of questions, MR. HARRELL: 3 maybe just to follow-up. 4 EXAMINATION BY MR. HARRELL: 5 Ο. Regarding what you wore that day --Yes, sir. 6 Α. 7 -- would it be fair to say that you were Ο. thinking you should wear either a business attire or 8 9 an Easter-type attire? 10 Well, I definitely wore business. Α. 11 heard Easter was what everyone else was going to 12 wear, but as the black sheep that I am, and I really 13 enjoy dressing in business, I wore a complete 14 business, pencil skirt and blazer. 15 What is the difference in these two? Ο. I'm 16 not sure I understand it. 17 Well, Easter Sunday, or you compare to, Α. 18 They're pretty dresses, not like, sundresses. 19 professional but pretty, something you wear to 20 church. Whereas, business professional would be 21 slacks, panty hose, pencil skirt, blazer, sports 22 For example, the Easter Sunday, khakis for coats. 23 men would be appropriate with a button up -- a nice 24 button up shirt and tie; whereas, if you're doing 25 business, it would be more appropriate to wear black

- 1 slacks with a sports coat.
- Q. Would it be fair to say that it was your
- 3 interpretation from the administration's request
- 4 that everyone wear nice clothes --
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. -- to this event?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And when you got the -- the message that
- 9 y'all could wear business attire or church attire or
- 10 nice clothes attire, did you take that as a -- as a
- 11 signal that there would be a church activity at the
- 12 school?
- 13 A. I did not.
- 14 Q. Okay.
- 15 A. In the South, a lot of people refer to
- 16 nice dress as church attire or Easter Sunday if it's
- 17 casual but still a -- go to a nice event.
- 18 Q. Exactly. Okay. And then on Dr. Frazier,
- 19 as regards Dr. Frazier, would you tell the Court
- 20 what you know of specifically he had to do with the
- 21 planning of this event and, in particular, the
- 22 planning of the prayer that you mentioned?
- 23 A. I don't know what hand he had in the
- 24 planning.
- Q. Okay. Do you know if he had any -- any

- 1 hand at all?
- 2 A. I don't know.
- 3 Q. Okay. You had no knowledge that he had
- 4 any -- any authority regarding the planning of that
- 5 event?
- A. No, sir, I'm only aware that he attended.
- 7 MR. HARRELL: Okay. That's all.
- 8 EXAMINATION BY MS. WALL:
- 9 Q. A couple of follow-ups. Who do you feel
- 10 like the day -- who was the person on the podium
- 11 that you felt like was in charge?
- 12 A. Well, Lynn Weathersby was up there the
- 13 most, and he was leading most of the introductions
- 14 and whatnot. I'm not sure if he led the planning,
- 15 but he led a lot of the introductions.
- 16 Q. Who -- I believe the tape I've seen
- 17 doesn't tell you who started the program. Do you
- 18 know who -- who was the first person to speak?
- 19 A. If I can recall, it was Lynn Weathersby.
- Q. And he did the closing remarks also?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And one quick question: Do you
- 23 know what, if any -- or what the relationship is
- 24 between the Rankin County School District and
- 25 Rob Gill?

	-
1	A. I do not know.
2	Q. Do you know how or why he was selected?
3	A. I have no idea. I think he's from a
4	member of a local church, but I am not sure at all.
5	I know he's Methodist.
6	Q. And you don't know who invited him to
7	speak?
8	A. No, ma'am.
9	Q. Do you know who invited Josh Harkins to
10	speak?
11	A. No, ma'am.
12	MS. WALL: That's pretty much all I've
13	got.
14	(Time Noted: 11:42 a.m.)
15	SIGNATURE/NOT WAIVED
16	
17	ORIGINAL: LYNN CHAIN WALL, ESQ.
18	COPY: FRED M. HARRELL, JR., ESQ.
19	COPY: RITA NAHLIK SILIN, ESQ.
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

CERTIFICATE OF DEPONENT
DEPONENT: M.B., A MINOR
DATE: December 16, 2014
CASE STYLE: M.B., a minor by and through her next
friend, KANWAR SINGH BEDI vs. RANKIN COUNTY SCHOOL
DISTRICT, ET AL.
ORIGINAL TO: LYNN CHAIN WALL, Esq.
I, the above-named deponent in the
deposition taken in the herein styled and numbered
cause, certify that I have examined the deposition
taken on the date above as to the correctness
thereof, and that after reading said pages, I find
them to contain a full and true transcript of the
testimony as given by me.
Subject to those corrections listed below
if any, I find the transcript to be the correct
testimony I gave at the aforestated time and place
Page Line Comments
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This the day of, 2015.
mis the day or, 2015.
M.B., A MINOR
State of Mississippi
County of
Subscribed and sworn to before me, this the
•
day of, 2015. My Commission Expires:
my Commission Expires.
Notary Public
Notary Public

1	CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER
2	I, Ginger H. Brooks, Court Reporter and
3	Notary Public, in and for the State of Mississippi,
4	hereby certify that the foregoing contains a true
5	and correct transcript of the testimony of M.B., A
6	MINOR, as taken by me in the aforementioned matter
7	at the time and place heretofore stated, as taken by
8	stenotype and later reduced to typewritten form
9	under my supervision by means of computer-aided
10	transcription.
11	I further certify that under the authority
12	vested in me by the State of Mississippi that the
13	witness was placed under oath by me to truthfully
14	answer all questions in the matter.
15	I further certify that I am not in the
16	employ of or related to any party in this matter and
17	have no interest, monetary or otherwise, in the
18	final outcome of this matter.
19	Witness my signature and seal this the 2nd
20	day of January, 2015.
21	
22	
23	
24	GINGER H. BROOKS CRR, RPR, CCR
25	My Commission Expires: September 18, 2017